

Rec'd PCT/PTO 05 MAR 2002

09/926713

216723US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

YASUJI HIRAMATSU : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 09/926,713 :

FILED: DECEMBER 6, 2001 :

FOR: CERAMIC HEATER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

*H. Heron  
#3 Pre  
Amend A  
9/10/2002*

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 3-5 as follows:

3. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1,

wherein the opposite side to the face where said resistance heating element is formed of said ceramic substrate is a heating face.

4. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1,

wherein the thickness of said insulating layer is from 0.1 to 1000  $\mu\text{m}$ .

5. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1,

wherein the volume resistivity of said insulating layer is not less than 10 times larger than the volume resistivity of said ceramic substrate.

BEST AVAILABLE COPIE